

WEATHER OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS

551.506 (261.1)

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By F. A. YOUNG

The weather over the greater part of the North Atlantic during May was practically normal and gales were not reported on more than 5 days in any 5° square, the maximum occurring in the square between the forty-fifth and fiftieth parallels and the twenty-fifth and thirtieth meridians.

The Azores HIGH was unusually well developed until the 30th, and the daily barometer readings at Horta were all above the monthly normals until that date; on the 29th it read 30.14, on the 30th, 29.74, and on the 31st, 29.94 inches. Low pressure prevailed over northern Europe during the first half of the month while the last half was characterized by sudden changes.

Fog was observed on from 13 to 18 days over the Grand Banks, from 3 to 5 days off the coast of Europe, and from 1 to 4 days over the northern steamer lanes. No fog reports were received from vessels south of the 35th parallel.

TABLE 1.—Averages, departures, and extremes of atmospheric pressure at sea level, 8 a. m. (seventy-fifth meridian). North Atlantic Ocean, May, 1929

Stations	Average pressure	Departure	High-est	Date	Low-est	Date
	Inches	Inch	Inches		Inches	
Julianehaab, Greenland.....	29.77	(1)	30.28	5th.....	29.20	18th.
Belle Isle, Newfoundland.....	29.87	—0.07	30.30	21st.....	28.98	17th.
Halifax, Nova Scotia.....	30.07	+0.10	30.48	14th.....	29.70	3d.
Nantucket.....	30.07	+0.08	30.52	14th.....	29.28	3d.
Hatteras.....	30.13	+0.10	30.52	11th.....	29.68	3d.
Key West.....	30.05	+0.07	30.16	7th.....	29.90	2d.
New Orleans.....	30.05	+0.05	30.20	10th.....	29.78	1st.
Cape Gracias, Nicaragua.....	29.90	+0.03	29.96	7th.....	29.84	28th.
Turks Island.....	30.12	+0.12	30.20	6th.....	30.02	30th.
Bermuda.....	30.30	+0.19	30.44	12th.....	30.06	3d.
Horta, Azores.....	30.32	+0.18	30.60	29th.....	29.64	31st.
Lerwick, Shetland Islands.....	29.90	+0.10	30.46	29th.....	29.08	7th.
Valencia, Ireland.....	29.90	—0.05	30.21	9th.....	29.44	6th.
London.....	29.99	+0.07	30.26	29th.....	29.34	6th.

¹ No normal available.

² From normals shown on Hydrographic Office Pilot Chart based on observations at Greenwich mean noon, or 7 a. m., Seventy-fifth meridian time.

³ From normals based on 8 a. m. observations.

⁴ And on other date or dates.

On the 1st a well-defined depression was over the western section of the Gulf of Mexico; on the 2d the center was near Pensacola, on the 3d near New York, and on the 4th over the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This low was accompanied by moderate weather except on the evening of the 2d and morning of the 3d; at the time of observation on the latter date moderate to strong gales prevailed along the American coast between Hatteras and Nantucket.

From the 5th to 8th an area of low pressure was over the British Isles, and during this period moderate gales were reported by vessels in the eastern section of the steamer lanes as well as by land stations.

From the 10th to 12th the northeast trades in the vicinity of the Canal Zone were unusually strong, as shown by report in table from the American S. S. F. Q. Barstow.

On the 11th moderate gales were encountered over the steamer lanes between the fiftieth and fifty-fifth meridians and on the 12th between the thirtieth and thirty-fifth meridians.

Charts VIII to XI show the conditions over the ocean from the 13th to 16th inclusive.

From the 17th to 21st moderate weather prevailed as a rule, although on the 18th Belle Isle, Newfoundland, reported a westerly wind, force 10.

On the 22d a fairly well-developed disturbance was over Newfoundland and another off the coast of Ireland and moderate gales were reported by vessels in the western and middle sections of the steamer lanes.

On the 23d favorable conditions prevailed, with the exception of a limited disturbance central near 47° N., 15° W.

From the 24th to 29th the weather was comparatively featureless, with high pressure over extensive areas, although during this period some few vessels rendered gale reports.

On the 30th a well-developed LOW was central near 45° N., 35° W.; this moved but little during the next 24 hours and strong westerly gales prevailed in the southerly quadrants on both the 30th and 31st.

OCEAN GALES AND STORMS, MAY, 1929

Vessel	Voyage		Position at time of lowest barometer		Gale began	Time of lowest barometer	Gale ended	Lowest barometer	Direction of wind when gale began	Direction and force of wind at time of lowest barometer	Direction of wind when gale ended	Highest force of wind and direction	Shifts of wind near time of lowest barometer
	From—	To—	Latitude	Longitude									
North Atlantic Ocean													
Livenza, Ital. S. S.	Palermo	New York	39 57 N	72 04 W	May 1.	11 p, 2.	May 3.	Inches 29.09	SSE	S, 9	S	S, 9	Steady.
Astral, Am. S. S.	Providence	Canal Zone	38 20 N	72 21 W	3	10 a, 3	3	29.11	SW	SW, 10	NW	WSW, 11	Do.
Hellig Olav, Dan. S. S.	Oslo	Halifax	55 35 N	21 40 W	5	8 p, 5	6	29.20	NW	NW, 8	NNW	NW, 9	Do.
Lepanto, Br. S. S.	New York	Hull	49 40 N	7 30 W	5	3 a, 6	6	29.19	NNE	NNW	WNW	NNW, 10	NNW-WNW.
F. Q. Barstow, Am. S. S.	Cartagena	Baltimore	11 38 N	75 30 W	10	4 p, 10	12	29.65	NE	NE, 7	E	NE, 8	NE-E.
Asia, Fr. S. S.	Gibraltar	Providence	38 25 N	59 40 W	10	10 p, 10	11	29.67	SSE	NW, 8	NNE	SW, 9	NW-NNE.
Parklaan, Du. S. S.	Rotterdam	Montreal	51 30 N	21 30 W	12	6 p, 12	13	29.22	SSW	NW, 11	WNW	—, 11	SE-NW.
Anacortes, Am. S. S.	Ardrossan	Baltimore	53 30 N	15 00 W	12	2 p, 13	13	28.81	SE	S	S	S, 11	S-SW-W.
Balsam, Am. S. S.	London	do	46 28 N	37 25 W	12	4 p, 14	17	29.64	WNW	SW, 7	W	—, 10	—, 10
Quaker City, Am. S. S.	Middlebury	Philadelphia	51 00 N	34 10 W	15	Noon, 15	16	29.36	SW	SW, 8	WNW	—, 10	Steady.
Nubian, Br. S. S.	Montreal	Avonmouth	51 35 N	14 37 W	21	3 p, 21	21	29.58	S	S, 8	W	S, 9	SSW-WNW
E. J. Sadler, Am. S. S.	do	Corpus Christi	36 25 N	68 50 W	21	1 a, 22	22	29.97	S	SSW, 9	WNW	SSW, 9	SSW-WNW
Daviesian, Br. S. S.	Liverpool	Boston	49 06 N	25 23 W	22	Noon, 22	23	29.45	NW	NW, 7	NW	NW, 9	Steady.
Tongking, Dan. M. S.	Antwerp	St. Thomas	47 40 N	12 16 W	22	7 a, 22	24	29.53	SW	SW, 7	WNW	NW, 9	SW-W-NW.
Haarlem, Du. S. S.	Barahona	Holland	49 15 N	21 13 W	21	11 a, 24	24	29.71	NNW	WSW, 3	NNW	NNW, 9	NNW-W.
Tongking, Dan. M. S.	Antwerp	St. Thomas	42 40 N	24 20 W	25	4 a, 25	25	30.06	W	SW, 7	NW	WNW, 9	SW-WNW.
Lubrafol, Belg. S. S.	Port Arthur	Hamburg	43 03 N	41 32 W	30	8 p, 30	31	29.68	WNW	WNW, 9	S	W, 11	WNW-W-S.
Bellflower, Am. S. S.	Manchester	New York	45 48 N	38 01 W	30	4 a, 31	31	28.72	W	W, 9	N	NW, 10	—